

CITY OF BRUNSWICK, OHIO

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

Monday, May 22, 2023

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of Brunswick City Council was called to order by Mayor Ron Falconi at 7:02 p.m. at the Municipal Complex.

Roll Call of Members showed the following Council Members present: Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, and Kristy Piper.

Others Present: Mayor Ron Falconi, City Manager Carl DeForest, Law Director Ken Fisher, and Clerk of Council Laura Timura.

Correspondence There was none.

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated May 8, 2023 Nicholas Hanek moved to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes dated May 8, 2023, as written, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Mayor's Report:

Proclamation in recognition of Ty Worsencroft's Eagle Scout achievement:

Mayor Falconi acknowledged Ty Worsencroft's numerous accomplishments and congratulated him on his achievement.

Proclamation in recognition of Isabella Heinbaugh-McCroskey's service to veterans:

Mayor Falconi thanked Isabella Heinbaugh-McCroskey for going above and beyond for the veterans within the community.

Proclamation in recognition of victims of crime:

Mayor Falconi acknowledged the crime problem in the country. He presented a proclamation to the family of Alyssa Pinardo who were in attendance and offered his condolences to them and the many victims of crimes.

Motion to approve Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Peter Lukic to the Ethics Board retroactive to May 8, 2023:

Joseph Delsanter moved to reappoint Peter Lukic to the Ethics Board retroactive to May 8, 2023, seconded by Tim Smith. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Mayor's Update:

Clerk of Council's Report There was none.

Council Committee Reports:

Economic Development Committee.....Mr. Lambert:

Mr. Lambert had no formal reports this evening.

Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee.....Mr. Smith:

Mr. Smith had no formal reports this evening.

Finance Committee.....Mr. Hanek:

Finance Committee Minutes dated May 8, 2023:

Nicholas Hanek moved to approve the Finance Committee formal report dated May 8, 2023, as written, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Safety & Environment Committee.....Mr. Kuczma:

Mr. Kuczma had no formal reports this evening.

Planning & Zoning Committee.....Mr. Delsanter:

Mr. Delsanter had no formal reports this evening.

Parks, Recreation & Community Committee.....Mrs. Piper:

Parks, Recreation & Community Committee Minutes dated May 3, 2023:

Kristy Piper moved to approve the Parks, Recreation & Community Committee formal report dated May 3, 2023, as written, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Building & Building Code Committee.....Mr. Abella:

Mr. Abella had no formal reports this evening.

Other Committees, Boards and Commissions

Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated May 8, 2023:

Nicholas Hanek moved to approve the amended Committee-of-the-Whole minutes dated May 8, 2023, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Petitions from the Public on Legislation

Reading of Legislation and Action on Legislation:

3rd Reading(s)

2nd Reading(s)

1st Reading(s)

ORD. NO. 36-2023 - An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to forward a petition for detachment to the Medina County Commissioner's Office for the purpose of adjusting the City boundary lines to include an annexation into the City of Brunswick of PPN 001-02D-08-009. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from

Committee-of-the-Whole, *Administration/Ken Fisher*):

Mr. Hanek moved this ordinance to second reading.

ORD. NO. 37-2023 - An emergency ordinance authorizing and adopting the proposed tax budget for the City of Brunswick, Ohio for the year beginning January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Committee-of-the-Whole, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 37-2023, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Abstain - 1, Joseph Delsanter. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 38-2023 - An emergency ordinance to formally close the OPWC Laurel Road Improvement Fund (#371). - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 38-2023, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 39-2023 - An emergency ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Brunswick City School District to compensate the Brunswick City School District for tax revenue lost as a result of exemptions to taxation on certain real properties for the fiscal years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 39-2023, seconded by Michael Abella. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith. Nays - 0. Abstain - 2, Joseph Delsanter, Kristy Piper. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 40-2023 - An emergency ordinance creating a Fire Station Construction Fund (#359) - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 40-2023, seconded by Joseph Delsanter. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 41-2023 - An emergency ordinance creating a General Obligation Fire Station Bond Retirement Sub-Fund (#772) - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 41-2023, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Abstain - 1, Joseph Delsanter. Motion Carried.

RES. NO. 42-2023 - An emergency resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three (3) year agreement with First Communications, LLC for the provision of internet services in an amount not to exceed \$24,840.00. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee, *Administration/Robert Marok*):

Tim Smith moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Tim Smith moved to adopt Resolution Number 42-2023, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

RES. NO. 43-2023 - An emergency resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three (3) year agreement with First Communications, LLC for the provision of PRI phone lines in an amount not to exceed \$17,523.00. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee, *Administration/Robert Marok*):

Tim Smith moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Tim Smith moved to adopt Resolution Number 43-2023, seconded by Joseph Delsanter. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

City Manager's Report Carl DeForest informed residents that the American Legion VFW will be hosting a Memorial Day program at Westview Cemetery at 303 and 42 on Monday, May 29 at 10 a.m. There will not be a parade this year due to the construction on Pearl Road south of 303. Lastly, City Hall will be closed on May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

Open Forum James Kutrubs (1558 Augusta Avenue) proposed that the City of Brunswick install a disc golf course in one of their parks. He described disc golf as a sport similar to regular golf, only instead of using clubs to hit a ball, specialized frisbees called discs are thrown and caught in specialized baskets. Disc golf can be played at a variety of levels, including recreational, competitive amateurs, and paid professionals. This can be a family-oriented activity. The best place to install a disc golf course would be in a public park. Disc golf does not take over the landscape and is installed to fit into the existing landscape. He noted that unless you are looking for it, you probably would not even notice that a disc golf course is in a park. Medina County hosted the first disc golf course park in Ohio at the Roscoe Ewing Park in Medina near Medina Hospital. Medina County has produced 6 world champion disc golfers (2 amateurs and

4 professionals). Two-time world champion, Ricky Wysocki, is from the Brunswick community. In 2022, Ricky was deemed the number one player in the world. Sadly, there is not one disc golf course in the Brunswick community. The disc golf community is warm and welcoming to people from all walks of life. Mr. Kutrubs feels disc golf would be great for the Brunswick community.

David Shaw (3596 Apple Hill Court) discussed the possible interchange at I-71 and Boston Road. He noted that he had worked on a Boston Road improvement project in the mid-90s. He explained that ODOT draws plans out for 15-20 years. This project had many challenges due to ongoing residential growth. The many crowns in the road posed a site distance hazard. It was also determined at that time that there are too many intersections on the north and south side for traffic lights. Mr. Shaw recounted that the best way would have been to make the road a 3-lane highway. He divulged that the relocation of a sanitary pump station, new waterlines, laterals to support the existing residents, and two twelve-inch natural gas lines in residential driveways would be needed. ODOT reviewed the project and it was put on hold. In 2005 ODOT came back to the City and the designer stated that the job did not meet ODOT's requirements and criteria. In the meantime, Brunswick and Strongsville installed a traffic light at Boston and North Carpenter and one at Howe and North Carpenter. Mr. Shaw cannot imagine which district would take ownership and provide safety services. He urged Governor DeWine to visit the area and draw his own conclusions. Mr. Shaw explained that this is not a feasible answer to the City of Strongsville's problem.

Gail Hamer (1685 Stonybrook Lane) voiced her disappointment that tonight's proclamation was not issued regarding Wear Orange. She informed that Wear Orange is to remember those that have fallen victim to gun violence. She explained that the Wear Orange movement was started after a young girl fell victim to random gun violence. Her favorite color was orange. From that tragedy, Wear Orange began. She added that this year Wear Orange touched our own community. She disclosed this year's Wear Orange weekend will be in memory of Alyssa Pinardo and Mye'Zavier Cannady. Ms. Hamer assured that Wear Orange will do all it can to prevent random gun violence in our country.

James Evanoff (3649 Ascot Drive) remarked that if it takes every meeting for him to speak out against the interchange, he will. He announced that he was glad the City was firm in its resolve to oppose the interchange. Mr. Evanoff suggested at one of Strongsville's meetings that the post office change their route, so that they are not on Howe Road during rush hour. Their Mayor affirmed that he will not and refuses to do so unless the NOACA studies reveal that he needs to do so. Mr. Evanoff declared that the City of Strongsville is doing all it can not to fix the traffic problem, so that they can force an interchange upon Brunswick. Mr. Evanoff reaffirmed that he will speak at every Council meeting he is able, if necessary, to stop the interchange.

Terry Woods (3560 Boston Road) asked why a stop sign was not considered at Sturbridge and Boston Road. He pointed out that the only option for the interchange that makes sense would be Drake Road. He indicated that Boston Road would have to be leveled and lanes would need to be added. Mr. Woods protested that the interchange is not feasible and would be expensive.

Unfinished Business Mr. Delsanter agreed that Drake Road is a much less expensive endeavor. He added that a widening project on Howe Road would definitely alleviate Strongsville's problem without impeding on the U.S. Postal Service, Amazon, or other delivery services. He declared that it is mostly Strongsville residents that utilize Howe Road. Mr. Delsanter suggested the governor change his mind and either veto that section of the bill or accept the fact that it wasn't a good idea to agree with Representative Tom Patton.

Mr. Smith pointed out that there are other disc golfers present at the meeting. Several attendees raised

their hands.

Mr. Smith announced that Bike Medina County will have its first Slo Roll on Thursday, June 8, at 6:15 p.m. This will be an 8 to 10-mile ride starting at Brunswick Lake and continuing on to the City's new pedestrian bike path, and then the County's bike path at Plum Creek. Kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. All riders need to wear a helmet, bright clothes and should have front and rear blinking lights. Mr. Smith will be leading the first Slo Roll.

Councilman Lambert noted that Mayor Perciak admitted that he is in regular communication with those conducting the study for the interchange. He insinuated that this may convolute the results.

Mr. Hanek explained the City and Council will continue to battle and fight this ridiculous project, which exemplifies the worst in big government. Mr. Hanek confided that he feels the City can win this fight and that it will require time and effort. He expressed his dismay at how Brunswick residents have been treated by Strongsville. He informed that the study was being conducted by a Strongsville company that Strongsville hired. Council will be watching this closely and is very concerned about how its citizens have been treated. Mr. Hanek exclaimed that it is his hope that Brunswick City Council treats its citizens and taxpayers in the State of Ohio with respect.

New Business There was none.

Adjournment Nicholas Hanek moved to adjourn, seconded by Tim Smith. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Timura

Clerk of Council

Mayor Ron Falconi

Adopted